

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:****I. Abstract**

This information is collected to (1) grant certain members of the public an exemption under the Endangered Species Act of 1973 to which they would not otherwise be entitled, and (2) to manage the program and provide for effective law enforcement. The exemption allows holders to engage in interstate or foreign commerce in otherwise prohibited endangered species parts as long as those parts were part of the holder's inventory prior to the effective date of the Act. Exemption holders must submit quarterly reports, usually just invoices of an sale or transfer of items

**II. Method of Collection**

Respondents will meet the requirements set forth in the regulation. No forms will be used.

**III. Data**

*OMB Number:* 0648-0078.

*Form Number:* None.

*Type of Review:* Regular Submission.

*Affected Public:* Business or other for-profit organizations.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 10.

*Estimated Time Per Response:* .5 hrs for renewal requests, 1 hour for a quarterly report.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours:* 41.

*Estimated Total Annual Cost to Public:* \$0 (no capital expenditures are required).

**IV. Request for Comments**

Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden (including hours and cost) of the proposed collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval of this information collection; they also will become a matter of public record.

Dated: February 18, 1998.

**Linda Engelmeier,**

*Departmental Forms Clearance Officer, Office of Management and Organization.*

[FR Doc. 98-4583 Filed 2-23-98; 8:45 am]

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**DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE****National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration****Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment Request**

*Title:* U.S. Fishermen Fishing in Russian Waters.

*ACTION:* Proposed collection; comment request.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Commerce, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Pub. L. 104-13 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)).

**DATES:** Written comments must be submitted on or before April 27, 1998.

**ADDRESSES:** Direct all written comments to Linda Engelmeier, Departmental Forms Clearance Officer, Department of Commerce, Room 5327, 14th and Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington DC 20230.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection instrument(s) and instructions should be directed to Bob Dickinson, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, International Fisheries Division, 1315 East West Highway, Silver Spring, Maryland 20910, (301) 713-2337.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:****I. Abstract**

Regulations at 50 CFR Part 300 Subpart J govern U.S. fishing in the Russian Federation Economic Zone, and implement provisions of the "Agreement between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Russian Federation on Mutual Fisheries Relations." Under the Agreement, Russian authorities may permit U.S. fishermen to fish for allocations of surplus stocks in the Russian Economic Zone, a zone extending up to 200 nautical miles off

the coast of the Russian Federation. Collection of information from permitted U.S. vessels is necessary to monitor their activities and whereabouts in Russian and U.S. waters and to ensure that permitted U.S. vessels are adhering to relevant Russian and U.S. fishery management regulations.

**II. Method of Collection**

Permit applications and copies of permits are mailed. Vessel abstract reports, and depart and return messages, are faxed to NOAA.

**III. Data**

*OMB Number:* 0648-0228.

*Form Number:* None.

*Type of Review:* Regular Submission.

*Affected Public:* Businesses and other for-profit (commercial fishing companies).

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 10 (multiple responses).

*Estimated Time Per Response:* 30 minutes.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours:* 75.

*Estimated Total Annual Cost to Public:* 0 (no capital expenditures are required).

**IV. Request for Comments**

Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden (including hours and cost) of the proposed collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval of this information collection; they also will become a matter of public record.

Dated: February 18, 1998.

**Linda Engelmeier,**

*Departmental Forms Clearance Officer, Office of Management and Organization.*

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